

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A method comprising:
  - 2 displaying a set of one or more input objects, the input objects to receive one or
  - 3 more input decisions including an indication of a target retirement age, an
  - 4 indication of a target level of investment risk, and an indication of a
  - 5 retirement income goal;
  - 6 displaying a set of one or more output values, the set of output values including an
  - 7 indication of the probability of achieving the retirement income goal and
  - 8 an indication of the most likely retirement income in current dollars based
  - 9 upon one or more input decisions and a recommended set of financial
  - 10 products;
  - 11 receiving an updated input decision via one or more of the input objects;
  - 12 determining one or more new output values based upon the updated input
  - 13 decision; and
  - 14 refreshing the set of one or more output values to reflect the one or more new
  - 15 output values.
- 1 2. The method of claim 1, wherein a subset of the one or more input objects and a
- 2 subset of the one or more output values are displayed concurrently on the same
- 3 screen.
- 1 3. The method of claim 1, wherein the target retirement age is constrained to be
- 2 feasible.

1    4. The method of claim 1, further comprising displaying the recommended set of  
2       financial products, the recommended set of financial products conditional on the  
3       one or more input decisions.

1    5. The method of claim 4, further comprising displaying a recommended allocation  
2       of wealth among those of the financial products in the recommended set of  
3       financial products.

1    6. The method of claim 5, wherein the recommended allocation of wealth is  
2       conveyed graphically.

1    7. A method of providing an indication to a user of a probability of achieving a  
2       financial goal, the method comprising:  
3       a. receiving a retirement income goal from the user;  
4       b. receiving one or more input decisions from the user, including an  
5       indication of a target retirement age and an indication of a target level of  
6       investment risk, upon which a probability distribution is dependent, the  
7       probability distribution representing a set of possible future portfolio  
8       values based upon the one or more input decisions;  
9       c. determining the probability of achieving the retirement income goal; and  
10      d. displaying the probability of achieving the retirement income goal to the  
11      user.

1    8. The method of claim 7, wherein the target level of risk is received via a graphical  
2       input mechanism.

1    9. The method of claim 7, further comprising displaying a recommended set of  
2       financial products and a recommended allocation of wealth among the financial  
3       products in the set of recommended financial products.

1 10. The method of claim 7, wherein the probability of achieving the retirement  
2 income goal is graphically communicated.

1 11. A method comprising:

2 concurrently displaying

3                   input objects in a first portion of a screen, the input objects configured to  
4                   receive one or more input decisions including level of risk, and  
5                   a set of one or more output values in a second portion of the screen, the set  
6                   of output values including the short-term risk associated with  
7                   reaching a financial goal;

8 receiving an updated input decision via one of the depicted input objects;

9 determining one or more new output values based upon the updated values; and  
10 updating the second portion of the screen to reflect the one or more new output

12 12. The method of claim 11, wherein the short-term risk comprises an indication of  
13 the potential financial loss that might occur with a 5% probability within the next  
14 12 months.

1    13. The method of claim 11, wherein the one or more output values are graphically  
2                 communicated.

1      14. A method of presenting various aspects of financial risk to a user, the method  
2           comprising:  
3           receiving an indication of a retirement income goal from the user;  
4           receiving one or more inputs including retirement age and/or other decision  
5           variables upon which a probability distribution is dependent, the

6 probability distribution representing probabilities over time of the user  
7 achieving the retirement income goal;  
8 displaying an indication of risk of not achieving the financial goal based upon the  
9 probability distribution.

1 15. The method of claim 14, wherein the indication of risk of not achieving the  
2 retirement income goal comprises an icon.

1 16. A method of presenting a recommended allocation of wealth among an available  
2 set of financial products, the method comprising:  
3 determining a recommended allocation of wealth among one or more financial  
4 products of the set of available financial products based upon one or more  
5 decision inputs, including an indication of a target level of investment risk;  
6 and  
7 depicting the recommended allocation of wealth among the one or more financial  
8 products of the set of available financial products.

1 17. The method of claim 16, wherein the recommended allocation of wealth is  
2 graphically depicted.

1 18. A method comprising:  
2 displaying one or more input objects in a first portion of a first screen, the input  
3 objects configured to receive one or more input decisions including a  
4 financial goal, from which a recommendation is determined, the  
5 recommendation including a recommended allocation of wealth among a  
6 set of available financial products;  
7 displaying a set of output values in a second portion of the first screen, the set of  
8 output values including a probability of achieving the financial goal based  
9 upon the recommendation; and

10 graphically depicting the recommended allocation of wealth among the set of  
11 available products in a second screen.

1 19. The method of claim 18, wherein the one or more input decisions include an  
2 indication of a target retirement age.

1 20. An apparatus comprising:  
2 means for displaying a set of one or more input objects, the input objects to  
3 receive one or more input decisions including an indication of a target  
4 retirement age, an indication of a target level of investment risk, and an  
5 indication of a retirement income goal;  
6 means for displaying a set of one or more output values, the set of output values  
7 including an indication of the probability of achieving the retirement  
8 income goal and an indication of the most likely retirement income in  
9 current dollars based upon one or more input decisions and a  
10 recommended set of financial products;  
11 means for receiving an updated input decision via one or more of the input  
12 objects;  
13 means for determining one or more new output values based upon the updated  
14 input decision; and  
15 means for refreshing the set of one or more output values to reflect the one or  
16 more new output values.

1 21. The apparatus of claim 20, further comprising a means for displaying the  
2 recommended set of financial products, the recommended set of financial  
3 products conditional on the one or more input decisions.

1 22. The apparatus of claim 21, wherein the recommended allocation of wealth is  
2 conveyed graphically.

1    23. A method comprising the steps of:  
2        a step for displaying a set of one or more input objects, the input objects to  
3              receive one or more input decisions including an indication of a target  
4              retirement age, an indication of a target level of investment risk, and an  
5              indication of a retirement income goal;  
6        a step for displaying a set of one or more output values, the set of output values  
7              including an indication of the probability of achieving the retirement  
8              income goal and an indication of the most likely retirement income in  
9              current dollars based upon one or more input decisions and a  
10             recommended set of financial products;  
11       a step for receiving an updated input decision via one or more of the input objects;  
12       a step for determining one or more new output values based upon the updated  
13             input decision; and  
14       a step for refreshing the set of one or more output values to reflect the one or  
15             more new output values.

1    24. The method of claim 23, wherein the target retirement age is constrained to be  
2        feasible.

1    25. The method of 24, wherein the target level of investment risk is received via a  
2        graphical input mechanism.

1    26. An apparatus comprising:  
2        means for displaying one or more input objects in a first portion of a first screen,  
3              the input objects configured to receive one or more input decisions  
4              including a financial goal, from which a recommendation is determined,  
5              the recommendation including a recommended allocation of wealth among  
6              a set of available financial products;

7 means for displaying a set of output values in a second portion of the first screen,  
8 the set of output values including a probability of achieving the financial  
9 goal based upon the recommendation; and  
10 means for graphically depicting the recommended allocation of wealth among the  
11 set of available financial products in a second screen.

- 1 27. The apparatus of claim 26, wherein the one or more input decisions includes an  
2 indication of a target retirement age.
- 1 28. A method comprising the steps of:  
2 a step for displaying one or more input objects in a first portion of a first screen,  
3 the input objects configured to receive one or more input decisions  
4 including a financial goal, from which a recommendation is determined,  
5 the recommendation including a recommended allocation of wealth among  
6 a set of available financial products;  
7 a step for displaying a set of output values in a second portion of the first screen,  
8 the set of output values including a probability of achieving a financial  
9 goal based upon the recommendation; and  
10 a step for graphically depicting the recommended allocation of wealth among the  
11 set of available products in a second screen.
- 1 29. The method of claim 28 wherein the one or more input objects includes a target  
2 level of investment risk.

- 1 30. A server comprising:  
2 a processor; and  
3 a memory coupled with the processor to store a financial advisory system;  
4 the processor to send information to a client machine to display on the client  
5 machine:

6               one or more input objects in a first portion of a first screen, the input  
7               objects configured to receive one or more input decisions including  
8               a financial goal, from which a recommendation is determined, the  
9               recommendation including a recommended allocation of wealth  
10              among a set of available financial products;  
11              a set of output values in a second portion of the first screen, the set of  
12              output values including a probability of achieving a financial goal  
13              based upon the recommendation; and  
14              a graphical depiction of the recommended allocation of wealth among the  
15              set of available financial products in a second screen.

1     31. The server of claim 30, wherein the one or more input objects includes an  
2              indication of a target level of investment risk, and an indication of a retirement  
3              income goal.

1     32. A method comprising:  
2              concurrently displaying  
3              a set of one or more input objects, the input objects to receive one or more input  
4              decisions including an indication of a target retirement age, and an  
5              indication of a retirement income goal; and  
6              a set of one or more output values, the set of output values including the most  
7              likely value at retirement of a portfolio of available financial products  
8              previously input by the user;  
9              receiving an updated input decision via one or more of the input objects;  
10             determining one or more new output values based upon the updated input  
11             decision; and  
12             refreshing the set of one or more output values to reflect the one or more new  
13             output values.

1       33. The method of claim 32, wherein the target retirement age is constrained to be  
2                   feasible.